# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# OCEAN DEVELOPMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5406
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2002
COASTAL RADIO STATION FOR FISHERMEN
ARUN KUMAR;SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

**Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether 18 coastal radio stations have been set up to facilitate the fishermen;

(b) if so, the details thereof, locations-wise;

(c) the dates on which the said stations were set up alongwith the cost incurred on setting up of each of these stations:;

(d) whether the said radio stations have started functioning:

(e) if not, the time by which these are likely to start functioning and the reasons for delay therein;

(f) whether the fishermen have not been provided with Walkie-Talkie sets so far, as reported in ` Rashtriya Sahara; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINIS OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) Yes, Sir Under a programme on `Demonstration of shore to vessel communication system to coastal fishermen`, it was proposed to establish 18 shore stations in 8 states and 3 UTs of the country. It was also proposed to distribute limited number of walkie-talkies to fishermen. This was to be done in two phases. The states of Kerala in phase I and Maharashtra in phase II alongwith union territory of Lakshadweep had stated that they are not interested in participating in this programme. Later one station was added in Goa. Therefore, stations to be made were 14.

During the 8th Plan 7 shore stations in 4 states were set up and in the IXth Plan one shore station was set up. The remaining stations in the respective states are expected be completed during the financial year 2002-2003 (X th Five Year Plan).

(b) & (c) The details of the states alongwith the locations of the shore stations in phase-I is follows:

| Sl.No. | Name of State | Location of the station | Date of Commissioning | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Machilipatnam | 31.01.1994 | The Department had provided free of cost Annual Maintenance for continuous operation and maintenance of these shore stations and equipment for a duration of one year during 1997-98. Subsequently they were handed over to the state for confirmed operation and maintenance. |
| | | Kalingapatnam | 29.03.1994 | |
| 2. | Tamilnadu | Nagapatnam | 05.06.1994 | |
| | | Tuticorin | 10.03.1994 | |
| 3. | Karnataka | Malpe | 30.11.1993 | |
| | | Hannover | 10.06.1994 | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4. | Goa | Betul | 17.02.1995 | The total cost incurred on setting up of these stations was Rs.1.25 Crore. |

The details of the states in Phase II alongwith the locations of the shore stations and their current status of functioning/implementation and expected date of completion are as follows:

| S. No | Name of State | Location of the station | Present Status |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | West Bengal | 1.Fraserganj, 24 Parganas Distt.<br>2.Shankarpur, Midnapur Distt. | South selected fishermen completed by SAMEER, and autonomous society under ministry of Information Technology. In general the performance of base station and other equipment was found to be good.<br><br>The State Government has prepared an estimate for carrying out and completion of the residual work. SAMEER has examined the proposal and work is expected to be completed by 2002-2003 |
| 2. | Orissa | 1.Chandipur, Ganjam Distt.<br>2. Paradip Port,Paradip Distt. | The tower at Paradeep has collapsed during last super cyclone. The base station unit has been sent for certain repairs. In Chandipur the base station was found to be in working condition. However for complete functioning of the shore station certain repairs have to be carried out. SAMEER has examined the residual work and work is expected to be completed by 2002-2003 |
| 3. | Pondicherry | Periya -Veerampattinam | The civil works for establishing the station and R.C.C. foundation for tower have been completed. The electrical work and installation of communication tower is pending. Thereafter the station has to be commissioned after testing of all the equipment. Training of the local fisherfolk part of the programme. The system is expected to commissioned during 2002-2003. |
| 4. | Goa | Salegao, North Goa | The building for the shore station is ready.<br>Tower has to be commissioned. Shore station equipment as also the VHF sets have to be tested. The system is expected to be commissioned by 2002-2003.<br>The approx. expenditure is Rs.2.13 Crs. |

(d) to (g) The phase I of the project was awarded to M/s Marine and Communication Electronics (MACE) Ltd., Visakhapatnam, a Public Sector undertaking of Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, during the 8th five-year plan period.Two shore stations were established in Karnataka, Tamilnadu & Andhra Pradesh and one in Goa and they started functioning in 1994-95. The Walkie- Talkie sets were also distributed to the fishermen.

As the M/s MACE has been wound up, in the phase II of the project was awarded to M/s Punjab Wireless System Ltd. (PUNWIRE during the IXth Five Year Plan period.Seven shore stations to be located in West Bengal, Orissa, Pondicherry, Goa, and Andaman & Nicobar Islands were to be set up. PUNWIRE could not complete the work due to financial problems and this work has been now assigned to the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research (SAMEER) - Centre for Electromagnetics

under the Ministry of Information Technology. A discussion is under progress with States Government for identification of fishermen for distribution of the Walkie-Talkies.

In the Union territory of Andaman & Nicobar Island the Port Management Board has taken the responsibility for implementing this project. The System have been handed over to A&N Administration on 08.01.2001. Walkie-Talkie also been handed over to A & N Administration for.